

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY NEA - MR ABINGTON

S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FORD'S REPLY TO THE BICENTENNIAL
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT SADAT

1. REQUEST THAT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE PASSED TO
PRESIDENT SADAT FROM PRESIDENT FORD:

2. QUOTE: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I TAKE SPECIAL PLEASURE IN
THANKING YOU FOR THE THOUGHTFUL AND GENEROUS SENTIMENTS
YOU CONVEYED TO ME AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ON THE OCCASION
OF OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT, AS YOU EXPRESSED IN YOUR MESSAGE, THE
FRIENDLY TIES LINKING THE AMERICAN AND EGYPTIAN PEOPLES
WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP. CERTAINLY WE HAVE HAD ABUNDANT
EVIDENCE IN THE PAST YEAR THAT THE CLOSE COOPERATION OF OUR
TWO GOVERNMENTS IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE HAS HAD SUBSTANTIAL
EFFECTS. IT IS PARTICULARLY SATISFYING TO RECALL THAT YOUR
OWN MEMORABLE VISIT TO OUR COUNTRY LAST NOVEMBER ADVANCED
THE CAUSE OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS IN A SPECIAL
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WAY. YOU WERE VERY KIND INDEED TO CONVEY BY YOUR CHIEF OF

NAVAL STAFF, ADMIRAL ZIKRI, WHOM I HAD THE PLEASURE OF PERSONALLY MEETING, THE UNIQUE CHOICE OF AN ANCIENT STELA AS EGYPT'S GIFT TO THE UNITED STATES ON THE OCCASION OF OUR

BICENTENNIAL. YOU CAN BE SURE THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE LOOK FORWARD WITH SPECIAL PLEASURE TO THE EXHIBITION OF THE TUTANKHAMEN TREASURES IN AMERICAN CITIES LATER THIS YEAR AS A CHERISHED CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICA'S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, AND AS A SYMBOL OF THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. ALL OF THESE EVIDENCES OF EGYPT'S REGARD FOR AMERICA ARE WARMLY RECIPROCATED.

ON A PERSONAL LEVEL I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING WITH YOU THE COMMON EFFORT TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED, TO ASSIST IN BRINGING PEACE TO EGYPT AND TO THE ENTIRE REGION OF THE MIDDLE EAST. WITH HIGHEST ESTEEM AND WARM PERSONAL REGARDS, SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD. UNQUOTE.

3. FYI: FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF PRESIDENT SADAT'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT FORD:

QUOTE: DEAR FRIEND, PRESIDENT GERALD FORD: IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME, TO EXTEND TO YOU AND TO THE FRIENDLY PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, IN MY OWN NAME AND ON BEHALF OF THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE, HEARTFELT FELICITATIONS, ON THE OCCASION OF CELEBRATING YOUR COUNTRY'S BICENTENNIAL INDEPENDENCE DAY ANNIVERSARY.

IN FACT, JULY 4TH, 1776, WAS A BEGINNING OF A NEW STAGE, AND A LANDMARK, IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICA. ON THAT DAY, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO BRING PROFOUND, RADICAL CHANGES IN THEIR LIVES, IN THEIR STEADY MARCH FOR ACHIEVING THEIR AVOWED VAST, HUMAN ASPIRATIONS.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION HAD BROKEN OUT TO ERADICATE AND UPROOT COLONIALIST DOMINATION, AND GIVE BIRTH TO CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY AS WELL AS DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES. BY SOWING THE SEEDS OF GENUINE FREEDOM, THE GREAT AMERICAN PEOPLE SET THE BEST EXAMPLE TO BE FOLLOWED AND IMITATED BY ALL PEOPLES FIGHTING TO ASSERT THEMSELVES AND EXERCISE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHT OF LEADING A FREE, HONORABLE LIFE, DEVOID OF ALL FORMS OF EXPLOITATION.

THROUGH THEIR REVOLUTION, THE AMERICANS WERE ABLE TO FIND THEMSELVES AND PLACE THEIR HANDS ON THEIR VAST RESOURCES AND POTENTIALITIES, WHICH GAVE THEM A MOMENTUM TO REACH THEIR GOALS, IN ALL FIELDS.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, WITH ALL ITS NOBLE PRINCIPLES, HAS LEFT PROFOUND EFFECTS ON THE MARCH OF THE PEOPLES, WHO ARE ASPIRING TO MAINTAIN LIBERTY, INDEPENDENCE AND CREATING A BETTER LIFE.

HIGHLY DEVOTED TO MAINTAIN JUST PEACE AND RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE LOOK FORWARD TO SEE THE PROCLAIMED PRINCIPLES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, PREVAILED. THEY LIKE TO SEE THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, BE APPLIED ON THE HOMELESS PALESTINIANS, WHO WERE ILLEGALLY DEPRIVED OF AND EXPELLED FROM THEIR OWN LAND, AN ACT, NO DOUBT, WILL HELP PROMOTE PERMANENT PEACE AND JUSTICE IN THE AREA WHICH SAW THE BIRTH OF HEAVENLY GOSPELS.

WHILE HIGHLY APPRECIATING THE TIRELESS EFFORTS, WHICH YOU MAKE FOR ESTABLISHING LASTING PEACE AND JUSTICE, IN THE MIDDLE EAST AREA, WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT THESE EFFORTS ON YOUR PART, WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THEY BEAR THEIR FRUIT.

OUR PEOPLE, IN THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS FOR MAINTAINING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE FRIENDLY TIES BINDING THEM TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WILL DEVELOP FOR THE BETTER, IN THE YEARS TO COME, THROUGH FURTHER CONSULTATIONS AND CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE.

PLEASE KINDLY ACCEPT, DEAR PRESIDENT, MY MOST SINCERE GREETINGS, WISHING YOU THE BEST OF HEALTH AND HAPPINESS, AND THE FRIENDLY PEOPLE OF AMERICA, STEADY PROGRESS AND ADVANCEMENT.

WITH MY HIGHEST ESTEEM AND CONSIDERATION. SIGNED MOHAMED ANWAR EL SADAT. UNQUOTE.
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4. WHITE HOUSE DOES NOT PLAN TO RELEASE REPLY TO PRESS BUT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION IF PRESIDENT SADAT WISHES TO DO SO. KISSINGER

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